

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

OPIC Military Information from Perleberg

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 6 January 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

25X1

1. On 25 November 1952, the Artillerie Kaserne on Linden Strasse and Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse, Perleberg, was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. From 12 to 16 October, the following materiel, which had already been believed located there, was seen in the installation: 24 T-34 tanks, 20 T-34/85 tanks, 4 BA-64 armored scout cars

14 x 76-mm field guns and 6 x 120-mm mortars. From 17 to 25 November, troops were seen maintaining vehicles and receiving basic training with carbines, light machine guns, heavy machine guns, and field guns. Intensive instruction activity was also observed. About 160 troops daily marched to the training area in the municipal woods toward Wittenberge. At 9:35 p.m. on 22 November, trucks occupied by 16 to 18 troops each, left the installation for what was a night practice. Motor vehicles were seen en route to the installation.

25X1

25X1

2. On 25 November, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, 2 km west of the town, south of the Sueskow-Lenzen road, was occupied by about 2,700 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. From 12 to 16 October, 131 T-34 and T-34/85 tanks, with the T-34 tanks numbering about 70; 3 BA-64 armored scout cars,

24 x 76-mm field guns; and 14 x 120-mm mortars were seen in the installation. The number and type of weapons corresponded to the observations made when the troops marched into the installation. From 14 to 16 October, 2 tank trucks, with a capacity of 6,000 liters each, hauled fuel from the main fuel depot in Pritzwitz to the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, during day and night at intervals of about 4 hours. From 17 to 25 November, soldiers were seen maintaining vehicles and receiving basic training with carbines, light machine guns, heavy machine guns and field guns. Intensive instruction was given. Motor vehicles were seen driving to the installation

25X1

25X1

25X1

3. Between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on 25 October, about 120 troops and about 80 officers and NCOs wearing red-bordered black epaulets and, half of them, tank insignia and the other half, artillery insignia, marched into the Artillerie Kaserne. Three T-34 tanks were seen in, and motor vehicles drove to, the installation.

25X1

4. Between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., on 25 October, about 170 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, and about 60 to 80 troops

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

441

SECRET/

- 2 -

25X1

wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia engaged in marksmanship training and field training. Ten to 15 T-34 tanks, some of them covered, were in the strip of woods near the installation.

25X1

5. From 1 to 29 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied to capacity. About 95 percent of the windows of the quartering buildings were lighted at dusk. Commanding officer of the unit stationed in the installation was Colonel Barabash (fnu) with Lieutenant Colonel Salmin (fnu) as deputy. The communication detail previously stationed in a building on Reetzer Strasse, was also quartered in the Artillerie Kaserne. During the period of observation, about 300 troops, mostly recruits, wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and armed with small arms almost daily left the installation at about 9 a.m. returning at about 3 p.m.

25X1

6. From 1 to 29 November, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Commanders of units stationed there included:

Lieutenant Colonels Drapachenko and Vasilyev; and Major Volkov; all three wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; Major Polechuk, who wore black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and was the successor of one Tutushkin; and Majors Babenko and Zachko, the service color and insignia of which were not known. [redacted] a general was stationed at the Ludwigslust airfield; Major Tutushkin had been transferred to the unit of Major Volkov; Colonel Ananyev will leave the Perleberg post on 1 January 1953; and that one Senior Lieutenant Mazylyuk succeeded Captain Khamitov. All officers' first names are unknown. A kitchen with a capacity for 600 troops was to be built in the quartering building of Unit Polechuk. Truck [redacted] with Major Zachko was seen on 24 November. During the period of observation, Captain Kleshin (fnu) was in charge of the post hospital.

25X1

25X1

7. A bakery in Perleberg was given an order to provide the post with 3,500 kg of bread daily. The last German workers in the Artillerie Kaserne were given notice in late November. In the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, the German manager Jesse (fnu) and three German stokers were still working, however, they, too, expected to be discharged soon.

8. [redacted] in early October, a conference of Soviet senior officers took place in Magdeburg, which determined all German employees except for 1 worker and 1 electrician were to be dismissed.

25X1

1. Comment. Information contained in the present report indicates no changes in the occupation of the Artillerie Kaserne and the Fliegerhorst Kaserne compared with previous reports.

25X1

25X1

[redacted] 131 T-34 tanks in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne.

25X1

All officers mentioned were known previously except for Major Tutushkin, Senior Lieutenant Mazylyuk and Major Polechuk, who possibly is administrative officer of the 921st Sig Bn (US) of the 18th Mecz Div. Colonel Barabash is commanding officer of the 58th Mecz Regt and Colonel Ananyev is chief of the division headquarters. Most of the other officers are believed to be administrative officers of units of the 18th Mecz Div.

SECRET/